

Application No.: 09/655481

Docket No.: 47171-00125USC2

Remarks

The Office Action dated March 24, 2004 indicates that claims 1-71 are pending and finds that claims 43 and 64 are patentably distinct. Applicants respectfully note that the preliminary amendment filed along with the filing of the present application on September 5, 2000 canceled claims 2-71 and added claims 72-99. Accordingly, only claims 1 and 72-99 are believed to be pending.

It appears that none of the currently pending claims (claims 1 and 72-99) recite "forward/reverse orientation" which the Office Action identifies in connection with canceled claim 64. Accordingly, Applicants believe the restriction requirement of March 24, 2004 has been rendered moot and respectfully requests that it be withdrawn. Alternatively, if the Examiner believes the restriction requirement has not been rendered moot, Applicants respectfully request clarification concerning how a restriction requirement is being apply to claims 1 and 72-99.

It is the Applicants' belief that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance, and action towards that effect is respectfully requested. It is believed that no fee is presently due; however, should any additional fees be required (except for payment of the issue fee), the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Jenkins & Gilchrist, P.C. Deposit Account No. 10-0447, Order No. 47171-00125USC2.

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If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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